

Application No.: 10/681,533
Amendment Dated: September 30, 2005
Reply to Office Action of: August 24, 2005

MAT-8456US

Remarks/Arguments:

Applicants acknowledge the allowance of claims 7-12.

Claims 1-6 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Minami et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,886,221). Pending claim 13 was not addressed in the outstanding Official Action. Accordingly, Applicants' representative contacted the Examiner and questioned the status of claim 13. During a telephone conversation, the Examiner indicated to Applicants' representative that it was believed that claim 13 included allowable subject matter. Accordingly, the feature of claim 13 has been incorporated into claim 1, and claim 13 has been cancelled. Allowance of claim 1 is respectfully requested.

Claims 2-6 are patentable by virtue of their dependency on allowable independent claim 1.

In view of the amendments set forth above, the above-identified application is in condition for allowance, which action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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